

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2320

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, NAC, OCON
SUBJECT: ORGANIZATION OF NATO SUMMIT

REF: (A) STATE 095082 (B) USNATO 2243

IZMIR PLEASE PASS ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

SUMMARY: AT APRIL 25 SPC, A SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY FAVORED
OPENING SUMMIT CEREMONIES AFTERNOON MAY 29 WITH SOME SUBSTANTIVE
WORK THAT AFTERNOON AND CONTINUING MULTILATERAL DELIBERATIONS
DURING MOST OR ALL OF MAY 30. ONLY SUPPORT FOR U.S. PREFERENCE
IN FAVOR OF OPENING SUMMIT MORNING OF MAY 29 CAME FROM NETHER-
LANDS. UK CONTINUED TO FAVOR HOLDING ALL SUBSTANTIVE SUMMIT
MULTILATERAL PROCEEDINGS ON MAY 30 WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS
MEETING MAY 29. NO AGREEMENT REACHED ON SEQUENCE FOR RESTRIC-
TED AND PLENARY SESSIONS. INTERANTIONAL STAFF WILL BEGIN
WORKING ON DRAFT COMMUNIQUE. PORTUGUESE REP SAID ATTENDANCE
BY HIS PRESIDENT IS LIKELY BUT NOT YET FIRMLY DECIDED.
END SUMMARY.

1. SCENARIO.
TIMEFRAME. BROAD AGREEMENT BEGAN TO EMERGE ON TIMEFRAME
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WITH MOST ALLIES FAVORING THE CEREMONIAL OPENING PLUS SOME
SUBSTANTIVE WORK BEGINNING AFTERNOON OF MAY 29 (I.E. PLAN
B). THE UK REP, HOWEVER, CONVEYED PM WILSON'S STRONG
PREFERENCE FOR HOLDING ALL SUBSTANTIVE SUMMIT DELIBERA-

TIONS ON MAY 30, WITH CEREMONIAL OPENING ONLY DURING LATE AFTERNOON MAY 29. U.S. REP REEMPHASIZED POSITION IN FAVOR OF PLAN C AND EXPLAINED THAT OUR PREFERENCE IS BASED ON STRONG DESIRE TO ASSURE ADEQUATE TIME FOR BILATERALS ON MAY 29. NETHERLANDS REP GAVE LUKEWARM SUPPORT FOR PLAN C. UK REP WAS STILL RELUCTANT TO DROP IDEA OF A SEPARATE FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING IN ADVANCE OF MEETING OF PRINCIPALS. ONLY CANADA AND NETHERLANDS COULD MUSTER UNENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT FOR THIS IDEA AS A COMPROMISE WITH THE U.S. PREFERENCE FOR AN A.M. MAY 29 SUMMIT OPENING. (COMMENT: AFTER SPC, MEETING, UK REP COMMENTED LONDON MAY NOW DROP IDEA OF SEPARATE FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING.)

2. THERE WAS WIDESPREAD SENTIMENT THAT, SINCE PRESIDENT FORD INTENDED TO BE IN BRUSSELS EARLY ON MAY 29, ALLIED PRINCIPALS INVOLVED IN BILATERALS WITH THE U.S. PRESIDENT WOULD TAILOR THEIR TRAVEL PLANS ACCORDINGLY.

3. RESPONSES TO THE CHAIRMAN'S QUERY IF DELEGATIONS COULD PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THEIR PRINCIPALS' ARRIVAL PLANS REVEALED THE FOLLOWING:

UK--WILSON WILL ARRIVE AFTERNOON OF 29TH
FRG--SCHMIDT WILL ARRIVE AFTERNOON OF 29TH
ITALY--MORO WILL ARRIVE MORNING OF 29TH
DENMARK--FONMIN ANDERSON WILL ARRIVE (DIRECTLY FROM MOSCOW) AFTERNOON OF 29TH.
GREECE--NO DECISION YET WHETHER CARAMANLIS WILL ATTEND
PORTUGAL--COSTA GOMES ATTENDANCE "ALMOST CERTAIN", BUT NO FINAL DECISION YET MADE. (COMMENT: PORTUGUESE HERE THUS BACKTRACKED FROM THEIR APRIL 23 STATEMENT RE COSTA GOMES' ATTENDANCE.)
RECOMMENDATIONS: A) MISSION BELIEVES U.S. HAS PUSHED AS FAR AS WE USEFULLY CAN IN NATO CONTEXT IN EFFORTS TO ASSURE FULL PROGRAM OF MAY 29 BILATERALS. IN OUR VIEW FURTHER EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE IN NATO CAPITALS TO GET KEY ALLIED LEADERS TO BRUSSELS EARLY ON MAY 29.
B) IN LIGHT OF SPC DISCUSSION, SUGGEST WE BE AUTHORIZED "RELUCTANTLY" TO SLIP THAT EMPHASIS IN TOWARD PLAN BIN
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EXCHANGE FOR ALLIED ACCEPTANCE OF OUR VIEW "ORDER OF EVENTS".
(SEE NEXT PARAGRAPH) SHOULD BE ON RESTRICTED SESSION.

4. ORDER OF EVENTS. ALLIES REMAIN DIVIDED AS TO THE SEQUENCE OF PLENARY AND RESTRICTED SESSIONS, WITH ABOUT ONE-THIRD SHARING U.S. VIEW IN FAVOR OF AN INITIAL EXTENDED RESTRICTED SESSION (AFTER CEREMONIAL OPENING), ONE-THIRD FAVORING AN INITIAL ROUND-ROBIN OF SET SPEECHES IN A MAY 29 AFTERNOON PLENARY, AND ONE-THIRD UNDECIDED, UNINSTRUCTED OR FLEXIBLE. RECOMMENDATION: SEE RECOMMENDATION B IN PREVIOUS PARAGRAPH.

5. SPEECHES; AFTER GENERAL AND INCONCLUSIVE REHEARSAL OF VIEWS ON QUESTION OF SET SPEECHES, ASYG KASTL SUGGESTED THAT

DELEGATIONS TRY TO DISCOURAGE THEIR PRINCIPALS FROM DELIVERING FORMAL SPEECHES OF GENERAL NATURE AT EITHER PLENARY OR RESTRICTED SESSIONS. HE SAID THAT IF THIS WAS UNAVOIDABLE, BECAUSE OF DESIRE TO PROVIDE BACKGROUND MATERIAL FOR PRESS, THERE SHOULD BE A TIME LIMIT OF EIGHT MINUTES ON SUCH STATEMENTS. KASTL FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT ONE MEANS OF HEADING OFF A TIME-CONSUMING ROUND OF PREPARED STATEMENTS WOULD BE TO CIRCULATE TEXTS IN LIEU OF SPEECHES.

6. AGENDA. THERE WAS BROAD SUPPORT FOR U.S. SUGGESTIONS ON AGENDA. ONLY CANADA HELD OUT FOR INSCRIPTION OF "THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION" ON THE AGENDA IF ONLY AS A SUB-TOPIC. KASTL SAID LUNS COULD MENTION IN HIS INTRODUCTORY REMARKS THE DESIRE OF SOME COUNTRIES TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC TOPICS LIKE THE ECONOMY.

7. COMMUNIQUE. THE SPC AGREED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF WOULD TRY ITS HAND AT A FIRST DRAFT OF A COMMUNIQUE WITH NATIONAL DELEGATIONS, IF THEY WISHED, MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS ON AN ANONYMOUS BASIS. IS WILL TRY TO CIRCULATE ITS FIRST DRAFT DURING THE WEEK OF MAY 5-9, WITH A VIEW TO SPC EXAMINATION OF THE DRAFT EARLY IN THE WEEK OF MAY 12.

8. ATTENDANCE AT RESTRICTED SESSION. U.S, REP REITERATED STRONG U.S. PREFERENCE FOR MAXIMUM OF FIVE PER SIDE OR EVEN FOUR. MAJORITY CONTINUED TO FAVOR SIX, WITH SEVERAL INSISTING THIS WAS "ABSOLUTE MINIMUM" FOR AN EFFECTIVE AND PROPERLY REPORTED RESTRICTED SESSION, ESPECIALLY IF IT IS TO BE LENGTHY. CONFIDENTIAL

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HOWEVER, SEVERAL OTHERS INDICATED THEY MIGHT RELUCTANTLY AGREE TO A TOTAL OF FIVE. THERE WAS STRONG OBJECTION TO LIMITING PARTICIPATION TO FOUR. COMMENT: MISSION THINKS COMPROMISE LIMIT OF FIVE CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY IF WE CONTINUE TO TAKE TOUGH LINE ON NEED FOR THIS LIMITATION. END COMMENT.

9. ACTION: REQUEST GUIDANCE IN TIME FOR PERMREPS LUNCH ON APRIL 29. BRUCE

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